

Article 12 – Substitute Motion with Amendments

Summary of Amendments:

- V (Vakil Amendment) - exempt turf considered "PFAS/PFOS free" by independent lab
- G (Greenspon Amendment) - Poet's Corner and adjacent land acquired by Town exempted from moratorium
- S (Schlichtman Amendment) - reduce moratorium and study committee from 2 years to 1 year
- P (Pagliasotti Amendment) - grant voting rights to all committee members
- D1 (Dennis Amendment 1) - 7 committee members instead of 8, chair appointed by Moderator
- D2 (Dennis Amendment 2) - add best practices, maintenance, and mitigations to study committee's charge

Syntax:

- **<X>from this to that</X>** → Amendment X replaces "from this" with "to that"

ARTICLE NO. 12

Dated: 4/18/2023

Based on SUBSTITUTE Motion submitted by Beth Melofchik under Article 12:

VOTED:

That Town Meeting hereby establishes an "Artificial Turf Study Committee" to be structured, organized and charged as outlined below; Town Meeting further decrees a temporary moratorium on the construction or installation of artificial turf on Town property as articulated below. The use of artificial turf upon the grounds of **<G>(1)</G>** Arlington High School, including Peirce Field, **<G >and (2) The Town of Arlington's Poet's Corner Park and any adjacent land that may be acquired by the town from private parties as part of future agreements regarding Poet's Corner</G>** shall be exempted from this moratorium.

Artificial Turf Study Committee

A. Committee Membership and Organization

- a. The Committee shall consist of **<D1>eight (8) seven (7)</D1>** **<P>members; three (3) of whom shall be non-voting, ex-officio members, and five (5) of whom shall be</P>** voting members as follows:

- a.i. **Ex-officio <P>non-voting</P> members:**

- a.i.1. The Director of Public Health or its designee;
- a.i.2. The Director of Recreation or its designee; and
- a.i.3. The Superintendent of Schools or its designee.

- a.ii. **<P>Voting Additional</P> members:**

- a.ii.1. One (1) member of the Arlington Open Space Committee or a designee, to be appointed by the Co-Chairs of the Arlington Open Space Committee;
- a.ii.2. One (1) current or past member of Sustainable Arlington or a designee, to be appointed by the Chair of the Envision Arlington Standing Committee;

- a.ii.3. One (1) current or past member of the Water Bodies Working Group or a designee, to be appointed by the Chair of the Conservation Commission; and
- a.ii.4. ~~<D1>Two (2) residents of Arlington each of whom shall have demonstrated experience working with local environmental advocacy or non-profit organizations, to be appointed by the Town Moderator. One (1) resident of Arlington, neutral on the issue of artificial turf, to serve as chair of the committee and to be appointed by the Town Moderator</D1>~~

Appointing authorities shall be encouraged to designate representatives who reflect racial, ethnic and other forms of diversity to be found in Arlington.

a.iii. Quorum

A majority of voting members shall constitute a quorum, and decisions shall be based on the vote of a simple majority of those committee members present and voting.

a.iv. Organization and First Meeting

The initial meeting of the Study Committee shall be convened by the ~~<D1>designee of the Conservation Commission chair</D1>~~, and the first order of business shall be the self-organization of the Study Committee through the election of ~~<D1>one or more chairs, whose responsibility shall be to convene and preside over all future meetings. The Committee shall also elect</D1>~~ a clerk, whose duties shall include the proper posting of meeting agendas and minutes. The Study Committee shall designate any other officer as it sees fit.

a.v. Committee Charge and Reporting

a.i.1. The Study Committee shall investigate artificial turf in regards to its safety, environmental impact, and cost effectiveness, as well as the available natural alternatives to its use.

a.i.1.a. The Study Committee's investigation into the Safety of artificial turf shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of its impacts on the human body due to long-term exposure, its contribution to foot and leg injuries when compared to natural grass, and its potential to inflict skin burns when utilized during hot weather.

a.i.1.b. ~~<D2>~~The Study Committee's investigation shall include best practices of site-specific design, procurement, and stewardship of turf drawn from the experiences of other municipalities. These practices shall include, but not be limited to: the certification and testing of turf components, maintenance plans that extend the turf's useful life, the choice of turf infill, downcycling options for the turf at end of life, recovery and reuse of infill, stormwater drainage with filtration and testing, mitigation of infill migration, and pre-development soil and groundwater analysis reference points.</D2>

- a.i.2. The Study Committee shall report its findings and any recommendations to the ~~<S>2025~~ 2024~~</S>~~ Annual Town Meeting or to any earlier ~~<S>Annual or</S>~~ Special Town Meeting.

a.vi. Dissolution

The study committee will be dissolved concurrent with the dissolution of the ~~<S>2025~~ 2024~~</S>~~ Annual Town Meeting~~<S>~~, ~~unless there is a vote of Town Meeting to effectuate an earlier dissolution or to extend the Committee's charge</S>~~.

Moratorium

- A. A temporary moratorium on the construction or installation of artificial turf on Town property will go into effect immediately upon passage of this motion. This moratorium will remain in effect until ~~<S>a final report by the study committee is received by Town Meeting, but no later than two (2) years from the date of passage of this motion~~ the dissolution of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting; provided that subsequent construction or installation of artificial turf shall conform to any standards or requirements approved during the 2024 Annual Town Meeting</S>.
- B. The use of artificial turf upon the grounds of ~~<G>(1)</G>~~ Arlington High School, including Peirce Field, ~~<G>~~and (2) The Town of Arlington's Poet's Corner Park and any adjacent land that may be acquired by the town from private parties as part of future agreements regarding Poet's Corner</G> shall be exempted from this moratorium.
- C. ~~<V>~~This moratorium shall not apply to artificial turf that is considered "PFAS/PFOS free" according to REACH and PROP 65, shall be non-detect (ND) for 30 PFAS compounds tested via EPA Method 537 Modified, DoD/DOE QSM 5.1, or equivalent, and have a statement from the vendor that the turf does not contain and is not manufactured with PFAS/PFOA. Such measurement will be done by an independent laboratory not affiliated with the turf manufacturer.</V>